Policy for Book Stalls in Railways

1065. SHRI GAYA SINGH:
SHRI JALALUDIN ANSARI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that according to the Government's policy since 22nd March, 1974 onwards, book stalls are to be awarded to the unemployed graduate categories only; and

(b) if so, the details of the policy in this regard and the number of book stalls held by each of the Contractors, including unemployed graduate categories, at different stations in each of the Zonal Railways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per extant policy, all new bookstalls contracts are awarded to unemployed graduates, their co-operatives, partnership firms, associations and co-operative societies of actual workers and vendors by inviting applications through Press Notifications after following prescribed procedure. However, non-profit making philanthropic organisation like Gita press, Sarva Seva Sangh, Rama Krishna Mission etc. can be allotted book stalls on platforms as special case.

The number of bookstalls held by different categories including unemployed graduates on each Zonal Railways is as under:—

Zonal Railway	Unemployed graduates	AH Wheeler & Co.	Higgin Bothams	Other Organisations
Central	67	77	-	14
Eastern	76	45	-	13
Northerern	86	48	-	17
N.E.	62	46	-	1
N.F.	9	30	-	2
Southern	72	-	29	3
S. Central	64	24	19	12
S.Eastern	37	31	-	10
Western	53	79	-	7